Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A system for producing a document comprising:

a repository for storing documents in a marked-up form ~~according to one or more mark-up schemas~~, each marked-up document having been obtained by marking up an unmarked-up document according to one or more mark-up schemas, and each marked-up document comprising explicit structural information corresponding to implicit structural information contained in ~~a corresponding~~ said unmarked-up document;

a document format store for storing formats; and

a document production processor for generating a user-requested document from said marked-up documents using a user-selected one of said formats, said generated user-requested document ~~retaining~~ containing said implicit structural information.

2. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein each said mark-up schema includes minor structural mark-up elements which must flow in said generated user-requested document.

3. (previously presented) The system of claim 2, wherein said minor structural mark-up elements include one or more of words, characters, paragraphs, numbered paragraphs or special paragraphs.

4. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein each of said formats includes a set of rules having parameters capable of user replacement.

5. (previously presented) The system of claim 4, wherein said parameters are applied by the document production processor to generate the user-requested document with any one or more of: variable paragraph or word shapes, variable paragraph spacing, variable character height, variable character width, variable font colour, variable background colour, use of colour for differing classes of words, variable character density, variable margin sizes, use of optically corrected font, use of shaded font, variable line length, variable line spacing, use of separators between lines of text and use of patterns in characters or words.

6. (previously presented) The system of any one of the preceding claims, wherein said marked-up documents and said formats are in the form of XML files, and said production processor creates an XML:FO style sheet from said XML format file, creates an XML:FO file from said XML document and said style sheet, and generates an output file from said XML:FO file representing said user-requested document.

7. (currently amended) A method of producing a document comprising the steps of:

marking-up [[a]] an unmarked-up document according to a schema, the marked-up document having explicit structural information corresponding to implicit structural information contained in ~~a corresponding~~ said unmarked-up document;

receiving a user selection of one of a plurality of stored formats over an electronic network; and

~~applying a user-selected format to said marked-up document; and~~

generating a user-requested document in electronic form from said marked-up document using said user-selected format, said generated user-requested document ~~retaining~~ containing said implicit structural information.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein each said schema includes minor structural mark-up elements which must flow in said generated user-requested document.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said minor structural mark-up elements include one or more of words, characters, paragraphs, numbered paragraphs or special paragraphs.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~each of~~ said user-selected ~~formats~~ format includes a set of rules having parameters capable of user replacement.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said parameters are applied to generate the user-requested document with any one or more of: variable paragraph or word

shapes, variable paragraph spacing, variable character height, variable character width, variable font colour, variable background colour, use of colour for differing classes of words, variable character density, variable margin sizes, use of optically corrected font, use of shaded font, variable line length, variable line spacing, use of separators between lines of text and use of patterns in characters or words.

12. (previously presented) The method of any one of claims 7 to 11, wherein said marked-up documents and said formats are in the form of XML files, and said generating step includes creating an XML:FO style sheet from said XML format file, creating an XML:FO file from said XML document and said style sheet, and generating an output file from said XML:FO file representing said user-requested document.

13. (currently amended) A system for producing and distributing a document comprising:

a server site including a repository for storing documents in a marked-up form ~~according to one or more mark-up schemas~~, each marked-up document having been obtained by marking up an unmarked-up document according to one or more mark-up schemas, and each marked-up document comprising explicit structural information corresponding to implicit structural information contained in ~~a corresponding~~ said unmarked-up document, a document format store for storing formats, and a document production processor for generating a user-requested document from said marked-up documents using a user-selected one of said formats, the generated user-requested document ~~retaining~~ containing said implicit structural information;

a network to which said server site is in communication; and

a printing site to which said ~~user requested~~ user-requested document is sent via said network to be printed.

14. (previously presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said printing site coincides with said user.

15. (currently amended) A method for producing and distributing documents comprising the steps of:

marking-up unmarked-up documents according to a schema, each marked-up document having explicit structural information corresponding to implicit structural information contained in a corresponding one of said unmarked-up ~~un-marked-up~~ documents;

receiving a customer order from a customer for a said marked-up document over an electronic network, said customer order including formatting information;

~~applying a customer-selected format containing said formatting information to said marked-up document;~~

generating a customer-requested formatted document in electronic form from said marked-up document using said ~~customer-selected format~~ formatting information, the generated customer-requested formatted document ~~retaining~~ containing said implicit structural information; and

transmitting said generated customer-requested formatted document over said electronic network.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said transmitted document is received by said customer.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said transmitted document is received by a printing site that prints said transmitted document for forwarding to said customer.

18. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein said customer order specifies a printing site being closest geographically to said customer.

19. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said customer order includes said customer's geographical location, and the method includes the further step of choosing a printing site that is geographically closest to said customer.

20. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said customer order includes the price the customer is willing to pay, and the method includes the further step of choosing a printing site that offers a production and transport cost that meets the price.

21. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said customer order includes the length of time that the customer is willing to wait for the document, and the method further includes the step of choosing a printing site that can produce and transport the document to the customer to meet that wait time.

Claims 22-29 (cancelled).

30. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein each of said formats includes a set of rules having user-specified parameters.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said user-selected format includes a set of rules having user-specified parameters.

32. (new) A method of producing a document comprising the steps of:

marking-up an unmarked-up document according to a schema, the marked-up document having explicit structural information corresponding to implicit structural information contained in said unmarked-up document;

receiving a user selection of one of a plurality of stored formats over an electronic network; and

generating, by a document production processor, a user-requested document in electronic form from said marked-up document using said user-selected format, said generated user-requested electronic document containing said implicit structural information,

wherein said user-selected format includes a set of rules having parameters capable of user replacement.